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**Baobab Digital Innovation Scholarship Application**

**Application deadline: Monday, 4 October, 16:00 GMT**

*Completed application form and attachments should be emailed to* [*scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org*](mailto:scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org)*.*

**Scholarship Overview**

In partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, Arizona State University will provide graduate scholarships to train 25 Mastercard Foundation alumni at the Master’s level for various programs over 4 years (2021 – 2025). This scholarship program is situated within EdPlus, a central enterprise unit for ASU, focused on the design and scalable delivery of digital teaching and learning models to increase student success and reduce barriers to achievement in higher education.

This is a fully immersive and traditional on-campus 2-year Master’s program with a focus on training EdTech experts for Africa. While classes are in session, Scholars have the opportunity to work part-time with the Baobab team to gain hands-on experience implementing the strategic objectives of the Baobab Platform. The Baobab Platform consists of the implementation of an online learning community that will eventually include over 70,000 aspiring young African leaders around the globe. Between the first and second year, Scholars will be supported to participate in a 2-month Africa-based internship that aligns with their program of study.

10 Scholarships are available for students admitted for the 2022/2023 academic year, which will cover the full tuition fees, expenses for accommodation, and comprehensive support for the 2-year graduate program. On top of financial support, Scholars will participate in activities as part of the wider Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Arizona State University, including leadership curriculum, individual mentorship, and other events and programming.

A strong expectation of the Scholars Program is that participants return to their home countries to invest their gained skills and education in their country’s social and economic growth. Women, refugees and displaced persons, and people with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply. ASU is committed to enhancing the quality of students' educational experience by ensuring accessibility for all programs and services.

Scholarships are available for the following full-time, on-campus graduate programs:

[User Experience, MS](https://graduate.engineering.asu.edu/user-experience/)

[Graphic Information Technology, MS](https://graduate.engineering.asu.edu/graphic-information-technology/)

[Computer Science, MS](https://graduate.engineering.asu.edu/computer-science/)

[Information Technology, MS](https://graduate.engineering.asu.edu/information-technology/)

[Learning Sciences, MA](https://education.asu.edu/degree-programs/learning-sciences-ma)

[Digital Culture, MA](https://herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/node/40620)

[Master of Business Administration (MBA)](https://wpcarey.asu.edu/mba-programs/full-time)

* *MBA concentration must be in either Business Analytics or Marketing*

**Eligibility Criteria:**

* Applicants must want to apply for one of our eligible programs listed above.
* Applicants must qualify academically for admission to the degree of their choice, that includes a high level of English proficiency.
* Applicants must be a citizen of an African country.
* Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 35 on or before the application deadline.
* Applicants must demonstrate a track record of leadership and service within their community.
* Applicants must present economically disadvantaged financial circumstances, and be able to show lack of financial means from family or other sources to pursue graduate education in their home country or elsewhere.
* Applicants must not have studied or intend to take up other graduate study before August 2022.
* Applicants must be able to live in Phoenix, Arizona for the duration of the program.

**Value of the Scholarship.**

The Scholarship will cover the following:

* Costs incurred for visa application processing
* Costs incurred for English language tests
* Costs incurred for GRE or other equivalent exams
* Airfare to and from Phoenix, Arizona
* Full tuition, books and fees
* Housing
* Participation in Scholarship programming
* Awards are tenable for the duration of the graduate program of study, and at the end of the award, candidates will be expected to return to Africa.

**The deadline for all applications will be 16:00GMT on Monday, 4 October.**

All applicants are advised to apply for the scholarship first and, if successful, will be assisted in the process of applying for admission to Arizona State University. Interviews via video or phone calls will be held during November 2021, with final decisions made by February 2022. All successful applicants will travel to Phoenix, Arizona to join the Program in July 2022.

Please note that applicants are entitled to make one application per year to the Program. All applicants, once registered, should have read and understood the Application Guidance before submitting an application to the Program to avoid any errors or incorrect information. Arizona State University and the Mastercard Foundation reserve the right to cancel incomplete and/or late applications, to effect changes to the conditions of the scholarship or to make no awards at all. Admission to one of the eligible academic programs does not guarantee admission to the scholarship program.

*Please see our Frequently Asked Questions* [***here***](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S8YKwy144pXpeimLCCltCcvSbyNmNu4IsFY2AC9Vsz8/edit?usp=sharing) *and direct any other questions to* [*scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org*](mailto:scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org)*.*

There are 2 ways to submit your application:

To submit an online application, click [HERE](https://asu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6gkdfWgsQ17bhk2)

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OR

If you have limited internet access, you can complete and submit a downloadable version of the application to scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org. To access the downloadable form continue to the next page.

**APPLICATION FORM**

*Completed application form and attachments should be emailed to* [*scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org*](mailto:scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org)*.*

*NOTE: We recommend saving frequently to avoid losing your work.*

**First (Given) Name**

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**Middle Name(s)**

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**Last (Family) Name**

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**Alternative or Former Name (If applicable)**

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**Year of Birth (YYYY)**

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**Sex** (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* Male
* Female

**Email Address**

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**Primary Address:**

**Country of Birth:**

**Country of Citizenship:**

**Second Country of Citizenship (if applicable):**

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**Country of Residence (at the time of application):**

**What is/are your Native Language(s)?**

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**Please list any additional Language(s) that you speak.**

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**Is your current household located in a rural or urban area?** (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* Rural
* Urban

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**Who is currently the primary head of your household?**

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**What is the highest level of education that the primary head of household has received?**

**Do you currently own a passport?** (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* Yes
* No

**Do you currently have a Baobab profile?**   
Special consideration will be given to applicants' engagement on the Baobab Platform. (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* Yes
* No

**Do you identify as a woman, refugee or displaced person, or a person with a disability?**

* Yes
* No

**If selected for a video/phone interview, will you need any type of accommodation?**

* Yes
* No

**If you have been a Mastercard Foundation Scholar, please select your MCF institution.** (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* African Leadership Academy
* AIMS
* American University of Beirut
* Arizona State University
* Ashesi University
* BRAC
* Camfed - Ghana
* Carnegie Mellon University
* Duke University
* EARTH University
* Equity Group Foundation - Kenya
* FAWE - Ethiopia
* FAWE - Rwanda
* FAWE - Uganda
* KNUST
* Makerere University
* McGill University
* Michigan State University
* RUFORUM
* Sciences Po
* Stanford University
* Université d’Abomey-Calavi
* University of British Columbia
* University of California, Berkeley
* University of Cape Town
* University of Edinburgh
* University of Gondar
* University of Pretoria
* University of Toronto
* Wellesley College

**When did you complete your bachelors degree? If you have not yet graduated, please provide the year you anticipate graduating:**   
Please write down the year. **Example:** 2010

**What is the highest level of education you have completed?** (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* Post-graduate degree
* Graduate degree
* Undergraduate degree
* Diploma

**What program of study were you in?**

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**Which of the eligible graduate programs is your first choice? Please** (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* User Experience, MS
* Graphic Information Technology, MS
* Computer Science, MS
* Information Technology, MS
* Learning Sciences, MA
* Digital Culture, MS
* Master of Business Administration (MBA)

**If your first choice is not available, do you want to be considered for a different program? If yes, please underline or highlight your choice below.**   
You must select a program that is different from your first choice above.

* User Experience, MS
* Graphic Information Technology, MS
* Computer Science, MS
* Information Technology, MS
* Learning Sciences, MA
* Digital Culture, MS
* Master of Business Administration (MBA)

**Have you taken the GRE or GMAT?**   
Please note that the GRE or GMAT is an admission requirement for the following programs: the MBA. (Please underline or highlight your answer)

* Yes
* No

*If You answered Yes to the question above, please answer the two questions below about GRE. Otherwise skip to the next question.*

**Please enter your GRE or GMAT score.**

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**Please enter the date of your most recent GRE or GMAT exam. (MM/DD/YYYY)**

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**Using what you know about EdTech in Africa and Arizona State University, why are you interested specifically in this opportunity and how will the skills you gain fulfill your future career aspirations? (500-750 words)**

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**Describe how your educational, professional and personal experiences inform your research and creative interests. Elaborate on any aspect of your background that supports your candidacy for the graduate program that you listed as your first choice. (500-750 words)**

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**"I envision a world where..." Finish that sentence and elaborate on your ideas in an essay. How will you use your talents, passions and opportunities to further this vision in your community? (500-750 words)**

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**Provide any additional information you would like to bring to the attention of the selection committee. (250 words)**

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**Documents to Submit**Resume: Please attach your resume when you email your application form.   
   \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*    
 **The name of your files MUST INCLUDE your name** so we can identify it as yours.

Letter of Recommendation: Please attach one (1) letter of recommendation when you email your application form.   
   \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*    
 **The name of your files MUST INCLUDE your name** so we can identify it as yours.

Unofficial Transcripts: Please attach your unofficial transcripts documents. If your transcript is not in English, please also provide an English translation when you email your application form.

  \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*    
**The name of your files MUST INCLUDE your name** so we can identify it as yours.

Proof of English Proficiency (optional): Please attach a copy of your English proficiency test scores if you have it in your possession.

*Note: this documentation is not necessarily required to complete the scholarship application but is required for graduate admissions.*

  \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*    
**The name of your files MUST INCLUDE your name** so we can identify it as yours.

**Portfolio:** Please upload a document or attach a working link to your work that showcases how your unique skills and talents are relevant to this opportunity when you email your application form.

All applicants are encouraged to submit a portfolio, but it is a **requirement for applicants planning to apply to the following programs: Digital Culture, MA and User Experience, MS.**

  \*\*IMPORTANT\*\*    
**The name of your files MUST INCLUDE your name** so we can identify it as yours.  
If your file is greater than 100MB, please click this [Dropbox](https://bit.ly/3h0QtEc) link to upload your file.

**Application Checklist**

A complete application will include the following items emailed to [scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org](mailto:scholarship@scholarsbaobab.org) by the deadline:

* Scholarship form
* Resume
* One letter of recommendation
* Unofficial transcript, with English translation if needed
* Proof of English language proficiency (Optional)
* Portfolio: All applicants are encouraged to submit a portfolio, but it is a requirement for applicants planning to apply to the following programs: Digital Culture, MA and User Experience, MS.

**Permissions**

**By underlining or highlighting "Agree",** you grant Arizona State University permission to use your information provided to evaluate your eligibility for the opportunity and anonymously report information related to the program's impact. Additionally, you grant permission for us to send service emails and announcements about the program to the contact information you provided. If you are not already a user of Baobab, you also consent to Baobab’s Terms of Service (<http://bit.ly/2EFLkDM>) and Privacy Policy (<http://bit.ly/2ORRq8U>), which govern the use of the website and collection of information from you.

* Agree